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TO: Staff of the
Air Quality Surveillance Branch

FROM: Kenneth R. Stroud, Chief
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DATE: February 27, 2006

SUBJECT: BAM DATA FLAGGING IN AQDAS

Since we deployed the BAM-1020 network, we have occasionally seen unusually high PM_{2.5} concentrations with corresponding Q_{tot} (total volume sampled) values that were outside the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) requirements. These events have occurred during the July 4th fireworks and various wildfires. An October 7, 2005, memo (see attached memo) clarified the validation of these values. This memo is intended to help in the flagging of these data in the System Manager of AQDAS.

Two new flags have been added to System Manager to correspond to the “W” flag in EPA’s Air Quality System (AQS). If the Q_{tot} values are in the range of 0.700 to 0.829 m³ and 0.838 to 0.900 m³, then the technician doing the first level review, should flag the data with “**W**”: *flow rate average out of spec – valid hour*. If the Q_{tot} values are less than 0.700 m³ and greater than 0.900 m³, then the technician should flag the data with “**w**”: *flow rate average out of spec – invalid hour*. Any Q_{tot} that is outside the SOP requirements (0.830 to 0.837 m³) should be noted on the data sheet. Since these AQDAS flags do not translate into AQS, Norma Montez will manually flag the data appropriately when submitting the data to AQS.

Attachment

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency